



DATELINE: CALUMET

By BOB SELTZNER

In Reply

Daniel Green, chairman of the board of the Confederation of Patrolmen (COP), wrote to us this week. He, not Jerry Kuznitsky, the editor of "COP Newsletter," authorized the editorial in the January edition concerning the shoot-out at 8055 Merrill Ave. last December 3.

Green's article in the January issue of "COP Newsletter" refuted The Daily Calumet's news coverage of that shoot-out, and this columnist subsequently requested an explanation from George T. Head, COP president.

In his letter this week, Green wrote: "The article that appeared in the January issue of the 'COP Newsletter' was written myself and edited by Jerry Kuznitsky. My response to your story would be as follows. The reputation of

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The Daily Calumet with Chicago Policeman has been well established and well earned."

"Recently The Daily Calumet ran a story concerning our newsletter account of the raid at 8055 S. Merrill Avenue which appeared in our January Newsletter. The exception that your reporter takes with our story is well founded in the event that he believed that we were referring to him when we wrote this story is another example of how rumors can run wild, causing distrust among us. There are a number of people who are working actively to polarize the police department. Rumor is just one of their methods."

"We realize that this is not the policy nor the history of The Daily Calumet."

"We herein offer your reader an apology and retraction as to the error in printing."

"There should have been a paragraph definition separating the narration between the abstract of your copy and our editorial. The context in which the story was printed would give the impression that we were critical of The Daily Calumet. This is not so."

"As to the facts of the story that was

printed, our sources for the story were the actual case reports, follow-up reports, intelligence division reports, IID reports and interviews with major daily newspaper reporters who were on the scene, TV commentators who were on the scene and Officer Eddie Grays."

"The officers from the 4th District that we interviewed who confirmed the story were not taken into account due to the fact that they were interviewed after the story was already in print. We did not interview the officers who were on the stairs because their side of the story was well documented in their filed reports."

"The facts in the case are plain to see and they can stand alone. The problem, and therefore the reason for the story in the first place is that the story continues to be talked about, enlarged upon, altered and retold."

"Our story had the desired effect of exposing the pure facts to a great number of readers, hopefully stopping the bulk of the rumors. Again, our compliments to your newspaper for maintaining such high standards in reporting. We find The Daily Calumet most refreshing."